

Message

From: Shea, Valois [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=A4217A71307D4429B7BDC7C80EB40C7D-SHEA, VALOIS]
Sent: 4/26/2017 3:47:24 AM
To: Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)
Subject: RE: Injection wells at Dewey Burdock

Hello

Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)

I have added your additional comments in the email below to the comments received.
Thanks for emailing them to me.

Valois

Valois Shea
U.S. EPA Region 8
MailCode: 8WP-SUI
1595 Wynkoop Street
Denver, CO 80202-1129
Phone: (303) 312-6276
Fax: (303) 312-6741
Email: shea.valois@epa.gov

From: Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)
Sent: Sunday, April 23, 2017 9:34 AM
To: Shea, Valois <Shea.Valois@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: Injection wells at Dewey Burdock

To: The Environmental Protection Agency

From: Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)

Re: Azarga plan for deep well injection

Please include the following to your comments about the Deep Well Injection. Thank you.

There are many reasons why the EPA should deny Azarga any permit to mine uranium and/or inject toxic fluids into currently used aquifers in the Dewey Burdock area of South Dakota. The following will bring to your attention, once again, some of the most obvious.

1: The only reason this approach (4000 new bore holes for toxic waste disposal.) is being considered is the fact that the original plan to mine uranium In Situ is now irrelevant due to the low value of the material, the lack of demand worldwide, the lack of verifiable amount of uranium, a lack of verifiable funds to actually mine the radioactive product and of course the reality that alternative energy sources such as wind and solar are now employing more new workers than the oil and gas industries. These realities beg the question: "Why are we even considering this permit."?

One of the reasons for Azarga giving up on the mining was it's inability to clean up the waste from the mining effectively and intentionally poisoning the underlying aquifers and land surfaces. The injection wells will create the same problems of toxicity except in the injection scenario, the toxins will be forced into already necessary and utilized aquifers as opposed to the ruination of aquifer quality by transmissivity. The injection directly into these usable aquifers will simply accelerate the contamination of the aquifers.

3. Professional geologists and chemists from the South Dakota School of Mines,

Chadron State and private practice have testified most effectively as to the danger of this plan for all the residents in the area due to the irreparable damage done to the water supply including the Deadwood, Minnelusa, Inyan Kara aquifers and the most important aquifer of all, the Madison.

The misuse or contamination of the aquifers in the Black Hills flies in the face of good judgment due to the increasing importance of usable water not just in drought affected South Dakota but the nation and the world. We are depleting our water supplies by allowing the very kind of destruction envisioned by Azarga and the EPA. With the demand for water ever increasing due to continued world population

increases, it is imperative that the protection and careful usage of our water supplies be our guiding light. To actually embrace the opposite behavior is to violate the EPA stated purpose of actually protecting the environment. It is no longer possible to deny the threats to our remaining water supplies driven by In Situ mining and water ruination. Recent articles in several scientific publications have clearly demonstrated the danger to our water quality and supply posed by this mining and bore hole toxicity. It is your responsibility to make sure the water remains safe and by even considering a permit to allow this is a violation of your responsibility.

The fact that Platinum Partners, which is Azarga's largest share-holder, is being charged with a variety of misdeeds which if convicted could provide prison terms for the guilty, should be a wake-up call to the EPA as the kind of people who are running the show for Azarga. With the company based in China, overseeing a Canadian company with offices in Colorado, one can easily guess how Azarga feels about the long term health of the citizens in this area when compared to the greed for profit.

This a boom/bust scenario which if approved will provide 100 or so temporary jobs for a year or so and then only a handful of maintenance/mining operators. Whatever gain there might be for the employees and towns and counties will be more than offset by the cost for cleanup which will be borne not by Azarga but by those same towns and counties to the tune of scores of millions of dollars. The sad truth is that it cannot be remediated as it is well known that no In Situ mining operation, whether in Texas, Nebraska, or Wyoming or any other place, has ever been cleaned to original condition. It is not difficult to imagine that real estate values will drop, tax revenues for the towns and counties will drop if this ill-conceived rape of the land and aquifers is approved by the EPA.

Thank you for your attention. I hope this has been of some value in making your decision and I can only hope that you will make the right one.

Sincerely,

Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)

On Wednesday, March 29, 2017 9:38 AM, "Shea, Valois" <Shea.Valois@epa.gov> wrote:

Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)

Thank you for emailing me your comments on the draft UIC Dewey-Burdock permitting actions. I have added your email to the list of public comments received. I have also added you to my contact list to keep you informed on future EPA actions related to the site.

Here is the link to the EPA UIC program website that contains all the information in the Administrative Record, in case you do not already have it:

<https://www.epa.gov/uic/administrative-record-dewey-burdock-class-iii-and-class-v-injection-well-draft-area-permits>

The public comment period is in effect through May 19, 2017, in case you have any additional comments after reviewing this information.

Thank you!

Valois

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Email: shea.valois@epa.gov

From: **Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)**

Sent: Monday, March 27, 2017 8:58 AM

To: Shea, Valois <Shea.Valois@epa.gov>

Subject: Injection wells at Dewey Burdock

Dear Shea Valois:

As this issue has been extended for quite a while now, I will not start from scratch is detailing how unacceptable is the EPA consideration to allow injection of toxic waste into usable aquifers here in south west South Dakota. I will simply bring to your attention the fact that the EPA stands for Environmental Protection Agency not "Environmental Destruction Agency". It is sad enough to consider uranium mining when there is no profit available, no safety from radiation exposure and no protection from drainage into surrounding watersheds. To purposely ruin usable, potable and important local aquifers and state water supplies is mindless at best.

Now we learn that there will be no uranium mining in the foreseeable future but rather the foreign company plans on accepting toxic wastes from outside the area to make their profits at the expense of local population and necessary water supplies.

Please. Please. Protect our environment from these profit mongers.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)